Department of the Interior National Park Service

DO YOU KNOW THAT:

Hot springs are common enough in various parts of the world; but in many ways the terraces at Mammoth Hot Springs are the most wonderful of all. The springs themselves are frequently deep blue pools of great beauty; they are not actually boiling, although the discharge of large quantities of colorless gas give them that appearance. When the water overflows, lime is deposited in a great variety of beautiful, rounded, sculptured terraces one below the other down the slope of the hill. Soon, algae (microscopic and primitive plants) make their appearance in a great variety of colors, and the terraces become a living mosaic of vivid reds, pinks, yellows, and greens with all possible gradations between. In many places, beautiful crystals are formed, and a leaf or an insect falling in, is soon coated with a pure white covering. The terraces are intensely interesting and well repay a close, careful study.

The oldest terraces are on Terrace mountain, southwest of the present activity. Although the deposit is now hundreds of feet thick, we find tons of glacial boulders on top, and it seems quite certain that the ancient glacier plowed away considerable of such a soft material. Such a deposit would require thousands of years to form; and since it began forming before the ice age, our hot springs must be a hundred thousand years old at least, perhaps much more.

All our data goes to show that there is a vast bed of still hot lava down below us. It heats the water and then forces it up through beds of limestone where much material is dissolved and brought to the surface to be redeposited by the hot springs. This redeposited material is "formation," a variety of limestone known to scientists as **Travertine.** It is deposited at the approximate rate of an inch in fifty days; but, as the active springs cover only a part of Terrace hill at one time, it takes much longer to add an inch to the average height of the formation.

WHAT TO DO

AT

Mammoth

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Information Concerning
Local Points of
Interest

Published by
Yellowstone Park Transportation Co.
Yellowstone Park, Wyoming

MOTOR TRIPS FROM HOTEL AND LODGE

Terraces and Buffalo Corral. Leave 9:00 a. m. and 1:45 p. m. Distance 6 miles, time, 1½ hours each person ..... $ 1.00

Around Bunsen Peak via Golden Gate and Osprey Falls. Leave 9:15 a. m. and 1:45 p. m. Time, 2 hours, each person 2.50

To Roosevelt Lodge, Tower Falls Junction, 1 way.... 2.75

To Grand Canyon and return. Lv. Mammoth 12:45 p.m. Ar. Canyon via Norris Geyser Basin 3:10 p.m. Lv. Canyon next day 1:35 p.m. Ar. Mammoth via Dunraven Pass and Tower Falls at 4:47 p.m. Round trip, each person 11.25

(Other Special Trips by Arrangement)

SADDLE HORSE TRIPS

(Horses Not Rented Without Guide)

Conducted by Guide leaving daily at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. on one of following trips:

To Osprey Falls, distance 7½ miles, time 2½ hrs., each person $2.50

To Snow Pass, distance 7 miles, time 2½ hours, each person 2.50

To top of Mt. Everts, distance 10 miles, time 4 hours, each person 4.00

Around Bunsen Peak by scenic trails, distance 10 miles, time 4½ hours, each person 4.00

Sepulchre Mountain, 8 miles, 4 hours, each 4.00

(Short Trips and Special Trips by Arrangement)

WALKING TRIPS—(No Charge)

(Accompanied by a National Park Service Ranger Naturalist)

Morning—Terraces and Nature Trail

From Hotel—Those visitors wishing to see the Terraces, accompanied by a Ranger Naturalist, will join the party leaving the Hotel Porch at 9 a.m. This is a 2½-hour trip, distance 2½ miles. Those wishing to accompany a guide over the Nature Trail, will leave at the same time.

From Lodge—A Ranger Naturalist will leave the Porch of the Lodge, accompanying those who wish to see the Terraces at 8:55 a. m. The trip is 2½ miles long, and takes 2½ hours. Those wishing to take the Nature Trail will leave with this party.

Afternoon—Terrace Trail

From Hotel—A Ranger Naturalist will leave the Hotel Porch at 1:45 p.m. to accompany those who wish to see the Hot Springs Terrace via the foot trail. Distance 2½ miles; time 2½ hours.

From Lodge—A Ranger Naturalist will leave porch of Lodge at 1:45 p.m. to accompany those who wish to see the Hot Springs Terraces via the foot trail. Distance 2½ miles; time, 2½ hours.

Evening—Special Terrace Trail

For the benefit of guests who arrive at Mammoth in the afternoon and leave early next morning a special hiking party leaves the Hotel Porch at 7:00 p.m. and the Lodge Porch at 7:10 p.m. These parties are conducted by a Ranger Naturalist or a Park Ranger. Time, approximately one hour; distance, 1¼ miles. The operation of this hike depends upon continuance of daylight, etc. Inquire at Information Desk in Lobby as to whether or not it is being taken at time you are here.

AUTO CARAVAN

For those driving their own autos, a special auto caravan leaves the Campfire site in Auto Camp at 8:30 a.m., from Museum at 8:35 a. m., and from Liberty Cap, at foot of Terraces, at 8:45 a.m. The route covered includes the Terraces and the Buffalo Corral. Conducted by Government Ranger Naturalists. No charge. Time, 1¼ hours.

SWIMMING POOL AT MAMMOTH LODGE

Natural hot water from hot springs constantly changing. Open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Admission, suit, towel..... .50

LECTURES

(Given by a National Park Service Ranger Naturalist)

A short talk on the natural features of the Mammoth Hot Springs region in Lodge Recreation Hall at 7:20 p. m.; (Illustrated) in Hotel Lobby at 7:55 p. m.; in Auto Camp around Camp Fire at 8:30 p. m.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE INFORMATION

Office in Museum, open 7:00 a. m. to 10:00 p. m. General information on Yellowstone Park and road conditions in Park and surrounding territory.

ROOSEVELT LODGE

Spend a restful day at Roosevelt Lodge. See the beaver at work—and the bears. Good fishing.

Visit Specimen Ridge and the Fossil Forest.